

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A system for placing a vascular implant (10) comprising:

- a vessel dilation device (1) with an outer envelope (2) and a tapered end piece for introduction into a vessel, whereby said end piece consists of a nose (14) formed at the distal extremity of the outer envelope (2) and the dilation device (1) comprises means for opening the nose (14), consisting of at least two longitudinal slots (16a, 16b, 16c, 16d) which divide the nose (14) into several segments (15a, 15b, 15c, 15d) which can be opened out in order to open the nose (14);

- an implant (10) which is placed in the outer envelope (2), wherein the implant (10) includes [[an]] a first auto-expandable element (24) which expands in a radial direction and is maintained by the internal wall of the outer envelope (2) [[and]], a second, hollow auto-expandable element (25) which expands in a radial direction and a hollow intermediate section (26) between the first and second auto-expandable elements that is deformable by twisting;

- a means for translation of said implant (10) in relation to the outer envelope (2) such that the auto-expandable element (24) is maintained by the internal wall of the outer

envelope (2), and upon ~~contact with~~ movement of said implant (10) distally out of the nose (14), the auto-expandable element (24) presses against the internal wall nose (14) ~~the auto-expandable element (24) expands further in the radial direction~~ to open out the segments (15a, 15b, 15c, 15d);

- the means of translation including an inner sheath (3) mounted so as to slide in the outer envelope (2) and push the edge of at the rear end of the first auto-expandable element (24);

- the second auto-expandable element (25) is maintained by the internal wall of the inner sheath (3); and

- a plunger (4) mounted in such a way as to slide in the inner sheath (3) and can press against the second expandable element (25) at the end furthest from the intermediate section.

2-3. (cancelled)

4. (currently amended) The system according to Claim [[2]] 1, further comprising:

- a grip (6) that is an integral part of the outer envelope (2).

5. (previously presented) The system according to Claim 4, further comprising:

- a grip (7) that is an integral part of the inner sheath (3).

6. (previously presented) The system according to Claim 5 in characterised in that:

- the grip (7) on the inner sheath is located behind the grip (6) on the outer envelope (2) and includes a removable spacer (8) situated between said grips (6, 7) to maintain the space between said grips.

7. (previously presented) The system according to Claim 1 characterised in that:

- the segments that can be deployed (15a, 15b, 15c, 15d) are joined as required along the slots (16a, 16b, 16c, 16d) when the nose (14) is closed.

8. (previously presented) The system according to Claim 7 characterised in that:

- the nose (14) includes a temporary connector (17) by slot (16a, 16b, 16c, 16d) between the segments (15a, 15b, 15c, 15d).

9. (previously presented) The system according to Claim 1 characterised in that:

- the nose (14) includes a central residual passage (18).

10. (previously presented) The system according to Claim 1 characterised in that:

- the nose (14) includes a shape memory so that the nose (14) is closed as a default position when the means of opening are inactive.

11. (cancelled)

12. (currently amended) The system according to Claim [[11]] 1, further comprising:

- a grip (12) that is an integral part of the plunger (4) located behind the grip (7) that is an integral part of the inner sheath (3) and it also includes a removable spacer (9) placed between said grips (7, 12) to maintain them apart.

13. (currently amended) The system according to Claim [[3]] 1, further comprising:

- means of adjusting (19, 20) the angle of the inner sheath (3).

14. (previously presented) The system according to Claim 1, further comprising:

- a central channel (27) along the line of the outer envelope (2) to allow a guide wire to be passed through.

15. (currently amended) The system according to Claim [[3]] 1, further comprising:

- a grip (6) that is an integral part of the outer envelope (2).

16. (currently amended) The system according to Claim [[2]] 1, further comprising:

- a grip (7) that is an integral part of the inner sheath (3).

17. (currently amended) A system for placing a vascular implant (10) comprising:

- a vessel dilation device (1) having an outer envelope (2) with a distal extremity having a tapered end consisting of a nose (14) for introduction into a vessel,

- the nose (14) consisting of at least two longitudinal slots (16a, 16b, 16c, 16d) dividing the nose (14) into several segments (15a, 15b, 15c, 15d), the segments (15a, 15b, 15c, 15d) having freedom of movement so as to provide a way for opening the nose (14);

- an implant (10) being positioned in the outer envelope (2), the implant (10) including an auto-expandable element (24),

- the auto-expandable element (24) being expandable in a radial direction and maintained by the internal wall of the outer envelope (2); and

- a means for translation of said implant (10) in relation to the outer envelope (2), the means for translation comprising an inner sheath (3) which is mounted in the outer envelope (2) so as to slide within the outer envelope (2) and push the auto-expandable element (24) along the internal wall of the outer envelope (2), wherein

upon contact with the segments (15a, 15b, 15c, 15d) with freedom of movement and as the implant (10) is moved distally out of the nose (14), the auto-expandable element (24)

~~expands further in the radial direction and opens~~ presses against
to open out the segments (15a, 15b, 15c, 15d).